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December 15, 2004 (702) 515-5057

Valley Disposal Boundary Final Environmental Impact Statement Now Available

Las Vegas - The Bureau of Land Management Las Vegas Field Office announces the availability of the Las Vegas Valley Disposal Boundary Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and Record of Decision (ROD). The Final EIS described and analyzed the potential environmental impacts of three alternatives for the disposal and use of lands managed by the BLM within the disposal boundary established by the Southern Nevada Public Lands Management Act of 1998, as amended by the Clark County Conservation of Public Land and Natural Resources Act of 2002.

The Conservation Transfer Alternative has been selected as the BLM's preferred alternative and the reasons for this selection have been documented in the ROD. This alternative identifies an area of approximately 5,000 acres of sensitive plants and habitat, and paleontological and cultural resources along the Upper Las Vegas Wash in the northern valley. The Conservation Transfer Alternative provides for the protection and mitigation of these resources in the land disposal process.

The BLM is announcing its decision and publishing the ROD concurrently with the Final EIS; therefore, the comment period also serves as the appeal period for this decision. The BLM Notice of Availability (NOA) is scheduled to be published in the Federal Register on December 16 and the Environmental Protection Agency's NOA will be published the following day.

The public is invited to submit comments on the Final EIS and ROD during the review/appeal period of December 17, 2004 through January 18, 2005. Comments on the Final EIS may be submitted via email at lvblmeis@pbsj.com, via the website at www.nv.blm.gov/lvdiseis, or by mail to BLM Land Disposal EIS, PBS&J, 2270 Corporate Circle, Suite 100, Henderson, NV 89074. To appeal the BLM's decision, specific procedures must be followed. These procedures are described in the cover letter of Final EIS, in the ROD, and on the website.

The Final EIS and ROD may be viewed at www.nv.blm.gov/lvdiseis or at the BLM Las Vegas Field Office located at 4701 North Torrey Pines Drive, Las Vegas, Nevada.

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